

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A seal system by which a seal located in a confined space can be worked, comprising:

an access structure removably attached to a first element, the access structure having a positioning ³⁰channel;

a second element set apart from the first element to provide a ²⁰gap of not more than about two inches between the first element and the second element; and

a seal having a ²⁴securement portion sized and configured to be accepted into and retained by the positioning channel of the access structure and/or the first element.

2. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the confined space is an air gap between a generator rotor and a generator stator.

3. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the access structure has an annular shape.

4. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the access structure is removably attached to the first element by a plurality of bolts.

5. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the first element is a ring of a generator stator.

6. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the positioning channel is a channel having a depth of not more that about 4 inches and a width of not more that about 4 inches.

7. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the second element is a coil of a generator stator.

8. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the gap is about 0.05 to about 0.6 inches.

9. The seal system of claim 1, wherein the securement portion is a pair of legs respectively sized and configured to fit into the positioning channel of the access structure and the positioning channel of the first element.

10. The seal system of claim 9, wherein the legs respectively fit into the positioning channel of the access structure and the positioning channel of the first element upon being compressed by a compressive force.

11. An adaptable seal system, comprising:

an access structure removably attached to a first element;

a second element sleeved within the first element to provide a gap between

the first element and the second element; and

a seal adapted to attain a service orientation where the seal does not appreciably obstruct the gap, and an operation orientation where the seal essentially completely obstructs the gap.

12. The seal system of claim 11, wherein at least a portion of the confined space is the air gap between a generator rotor and a generator stator.

13. The seal system of claim 11, wherein the first element is a ring of a generator rotor and the second element is a coil of a generator stator.

14. The seal system of claim 11, wherein at least a portion of the seal can be moved into a protected area to make room for another object.

15. The seal system of claim 11, wherein the seal is adapted to attain the

service orientation and the operation orientation using a hollow portion that can be filled with a medium.

16. The seal system of claim 15, wherein the medium is selected from the group consisting of gas, fluid, gel, silicone rubber and combinations thereof.

17. The seal system of claim 15, wherein the seal is made of a rubber material.

18. The seal system of claim 15, wherein when the hollow portion is filled with the medium, the seal expands into the gap and attains the operation orientation.

19. The seal system of claim 15, wherein when the hollow portion is not filled with the medium, the seal does not expand into the gap to attain the service orientation.

20. The seal system of claim 15, wherein the seal completely obstructs the gap.

21. An adaptable seal system, comprising
^{stator 14} a first element removeably attached to an ^{ring 16} access structure;
^{rotor 18} a second element spaced a ²⁰ gap distance away from the first element;
 and
²⁴ a seal positioned between the first element and the second element adapted
 to selectively expand and contract in order to modify a flow amount in the gap.